

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 STATE 153471
ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00
PA-02 ICA-20 SP-02 INRE-00 /047 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/SE:MCFINROW:GB
APPROVED BY EUR/SE:JHMORTON
-----100672 161601Z /45

O R 161535Z JUN 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY ATHENS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
INFO AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
USMISSION USNATO

UNCLAS STATE 153471

LONDON FOR R.C. EWING

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: MASS, TU, GR, CY, PEPR

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING: TURKISH ARMS EMBARGO

FOLLOWING IS AN EXCERPT FROM TRANSCRIPT OF DEPARTMENT'S
JUNE 15 DAILY NEWS BRIEFING:

Q: DOES THE U.S. GOVERNMENT NOW FEEL THAT THE LIFTING OF
THE ARMS EMBARGO AGAINST TURKEY HAS NO RELATIONSHIP TO
PROGRESS ON CYPRUS?

A: LET ME TALK GENERALLY, HERE, ABOUT THE TURKISH EMBARGO
SITUATION. LET ME SAY THAT WE HAVE FULLY LIVED UP TO THE
TERMS OF THE LAW IN REGARD TO THE EMBARGO.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 153471

SINCE COMING INTO OFFICE, THIS ADMINISTRATION HAS WORKED
DILIGENTLY TO PROMOTE A CYPRUS SETTLEMENT. THE EXISTENCE
OF THE EMBARGO WAS AN IMPORTANT ELEMENT IN OUR APPROACH.

AS THE PRESIDENT SAID YESTERDAY AT HIS NEWS CONFERENCE,
THE EMBARGO HAS NOT WORKED TO PROMOTE A SUCCESSFUL SETTLE-

MENT. NOW I COULD QUOTE YOU WHAT THE PRESIDENT SAID YES-
TERDAY, BUT I TAKE IT YOU CAN FIND THAT YOURSELF.

Q: NO, THAT'S NOT NECESSARY.

SO THE ANSWER TO THE QUESTION IS: NO, THERE IS NOT
NOW A LINK BETWEEN A CYPRUS SETTLEMENT BECAUSE YOU HAVE
DETERMINED THAT THE EMBARGO ITSELF HASN'T WORKED TO
PROMOTE THE SETTLEMENT -- SO YOU WANT TO LIFT THE EMBARGO
AND HOPE AFTERWARD THAT YOU CAN WORK ON THE CYPRUS
PROBLEM.

A: WE HAVE BEEN WORKING ALL ALONG ON THE CYPRUS PROBLEM.
THE EMBARGO STILL IS IN EFFECT, AND WE ARE NOW WORKING ON
A SOLUTION TO THE CYPRUS PROBLEM. WE WILL CONTINUE TO
WORK FOR A SOLUTION TO THE CYPRUS PROBLEM IF, HOPEFULLY,
THE CONGRESS GOES AHEAD AND LIFTS THE EMBARGO.

BUT IT IS MY UNDERSTANDING THAT THERE IS NO LINKAGE.

BUT WE CONTINUE TO PRESS AND TO URGE THE PARTIES, ALL
THE PARTIES, TO SHOW THE FLEXIBILITY NECESSARY TO COME
FORWARD AND SUCCESSFULLY RESOLVE THIS PROBLEM.

Q: THIS DOES REPRESENT A CHANGE THEN, DOES IT NOT?

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 153471

A: NO. IT'S MY UNDERSTANDING THAT I AM NOT ANNOUNCING
ANY NEW CHANGE.

Q: WELL, A NUMBER OF THE SENATORS AND CONGRESSMEN QUOTED
IN A NEWS STORY TODAY, QUOTE THE PRESIDENT AS SAYING THAT
THERE IS A DIRECT TIE-IN BETWEEN THE CYPRUS SITUATION
AND THE LIFTING OF THE EMBARGO.

A: WE HAVE URGED ALL ALONG THAT THE TURKS AS WELL AS
THE OTHER PARTIES INVOLVED HERE WILL SHOW THE FLEXIBILITY
NECESSARY TO RESOLVE THIS PROBLEM. WE CONTINUE TO TALK
WITH THE TURKS, AS WELL AS WITH THE GREEKS AND THE
VARIOUS PARTIES ON CYPRUS ABOUT COMING TO A RESOLUTION
OF THE PROBLEM.

Q: COULD YOU REFER TO THE SPECIFIC QUESTION?

IS THERE, OR IS THERE NOT LINKAGE; AND HAS THE
PRESIDENT IN THE PAST SAID THAT THERE IS A LINKAGE, OR
HAS HE NOT SAID THAT?

A: YOU KNOW THE PRESIDENT SAID A GREAT MANY THINGS, AND

THAT IS A RATHER GENERAL QUESTION.

IT IS MY UNDERSTANDING THAT I AM NOT ANNOUNCING A NEW POLICY HERE TODAY. I STAND BY WHAT THE PRESIDENT SAID YESTERDAY AT THE BEGINNING OF HIS NEWS CONFERENCE. WE CONTINUE TO BE INTERESTED IN SEEING MOVEMENT BY ALL THE PARTIES ON THE CYPRUS QUESTION. WE ARE IN FAVOR OF LIFTING THE EMBARGO ON ARMS SALES TO TURKEY.

Q: YES, AND ONE MORE QUESTION, PLEASE:

THE PRESIDENT SUGGESTED YESTERDAY, AND THE DEPARTMENT HAS SUGGESTED IN THE PAST, THAT SOMEHOW THE LIFTING OF THE EMBARGO WILL IMPROVE THEIR RELATIONS BETWEEN GREECE
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 STATE 153471

AND THE UNITED STATES AND BETWEEN GREECE AND TURKEY.

NOW DO YOU HAVE ANY SUCH ASSURANCES, OR HAS THE GREEK GOVERNMENT EVER TOLD YOU THAT SUCH AN IMPROVEMENT WILL OCCUR UPON THE LIFTING OF THE EMBARGO? BECAUSE ALL THE STATEMENTS THAT I HAVE SEEN OF THE GREEK GOVERNMENT POINT TO THE OTHER DIRECTION -- THAT IT WILL CREATE PROBLEMS. THE LIFTING OF THE EMBARGO WILL CREATE PROBLEMS BOTH IN YOUR BILATERAL RELATIONS AND IN THE RELATIONS BETWEEN GREECE AND TURKEY.

WHY DOES THE PRESIDENT SUGGEST THESE THINGS?

A: I THINK THE PRESIDENT SUGGESTS THESE THINGS BECAUSE HE BELIEVES, AND THE STATE DEPARTMENT BELIEVES, THAT A SUCCESSFUL RESOLUTION OF THE CYPRUS DISPUTE AND THE VARIOUS OUTSTANDING MATTERS WHICH REMAIN BETWEEN GREECE AND TURKEY -- AND BILATERALLY BETWEEN GREECE AND OURSELVES AND TURKEY AND OURSELVES, AND THE CONTINUING NETTLESOME PROBLEM OF CYPRUS -- THAT IF THESE THINGS CAN BE RESOLVED THEN THERE WILL BE BETTER RELATIONS ALL AROUND.

Q: BUT EXCUSE ME. YOU SEEM TO BE SPEAKING FOR THE GREEK GOVERNMENT.

A: NO, I AM NOT.

Q: ISN'T IT THE GREEK GOVERNMENT'S DECISION TO SAY WHETHER OR NOT THE LIFTING OF THE EMBARGO WILL IMPROVE THEIR RELATIONS, RATHER THAN THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES?

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 05 STATE 153471

A: IT IS THE PREROGATIVE OF THE GREEK GOVERNMENT TO SPEAK
FOR ITSELF. I AM IN NO WAY SPEAKING FOR THE GREEK
GOVERNMENT, NOR DID PRESIDENT CARTER SPEAK FOR THE GREEK
GOVERNMENT. NEWSOM

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ARMS, ARMS EMBARGO
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE153471
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: MCFINROW:GB
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780252-0253
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780649/aaaabqon.tel
Line Count: 179
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 732dc486-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2315017
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING: TURKISH ARMS EMBARGO FOLLOWING IS AN EXCERPT FROM TRANSCRIPT OF DEPARTMENT'S JUNE 15 DAILY NEWS BRIEFING
TAGS: MASS, PEPR, TU, GR, CY
To: ANKARA ATHENS MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/732dc486-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014